

**CITY OF MIAMI BEACH**  
**Office of the City Manager**  
**Letter to Commission No. 203-2004**

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**To:** Mayor David Dermer and  
Members of the City Commission

**Date:** August 2, 2004

**From:** Jorge M. Gonzalez  
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge".

**Subject: FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS PROGRAM**

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The purpose of this LTC is to advise you of the Fire Department's first Annual Awards program, which occurred on the evening of July 23<sup>rd</sup> in the City Commission Chambers. This program was developed to address the need to appropriately recognize the outstanding Firefighters and other Fire Department Personnel on a consistent basis. The program includes the Awards and Recognition Policy with an explanation of each award (see attachment).

Also attached is a list of Fire Department Personnel who were recognized for their outstanding and courageous service in 2003, together with personnel promoted in 2003 and 2004.

If you have any questions, please contact Chief Jordan at the Fire Department.

JMG\FJ/dd



## **MIAMI BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION POLICY**

It is the Policy of the Miami Beach Fire Department to appropriately recognize members of the Fire Department, members of other departments, or members of the community, who perform acts of heroism, or who provide exemplary service to the Fire Department, the City of Miami Beach, or to the community.

A selection committee will be appointed by the Fire Chief. The committee will be composed of members of the Fire Department recommended by the Fire Chief and the Union President. The committee will review the recommendations for each nominee, select those persons who are to receive an award, and determine under which category they will be honored.

Any employee of the Department may recommend a person for an award. The recommendation must include a statement which outlines the person's eligibility for that award. The award recommendation should be forwarded on the appropriate form to the Awards Committee.

Unless otherwise indicated, awards may be presented to persons outside the Department.

### **Medal of Valor:**

The Medal of Valor may be awarded to members of the Department, or members of other City Departments, for acts of heroism above and beyond the call of duty, which are performed under hazardous conditions during which the nominee is placed in a life threatening situation. (on or off duty)

### **Medal of Honor:**

The Medal of Honor may be awarded for outstanding performance by the nominee, distinguished by bravery and courage well above that which is normally expected. (on or off duty)

**Distinguished Service Medal:**

The Distinguished Service Medal may be awarded to a nominee who distinguishes himself/herself by exceptional service within the realm of public safety, clearly above that which is normally expected, to the benefit of the Department or the community.

**Community Service Award:**

The Community Service Award may be awarded to an individual who has donated considerable time and/or effort toward the betterment of the community, although not necessarily in a job related manner.

**Unit Citation:**

The unit Citation may be awarded to any group of Department members or City employees who make up a company, section, team, or work group, which has performed in an outstanding manner worthy **of recognition**.

**Safety Award:**

The Safety Award may be awarded for an exemplary act or accomplishment by a Fire Department member with regards to safety. Criteria and selection for this award will be determined by the Fire Department Safety Committee.

**Firefighter of the Year:**

The Firefighter of the Year award may be awarded to a member of the Fire Department for exceptional performance recognized in any of the other award categories.

**Paramedic of the Year:**

The Paramedic of the Year award may be awarded to a member of the Rescue Division for exceptional performance in the field of emergency medical services.

**Citizen Heroism Award:**

The Citizen Heroism Award may be awarded for acts of heroism by a citizen, performed under hazardous conditions, during which the nominee is placed in a life threatening position.

**Citizen Lifesaving Award:**

The Citizen Lifesaving Award may be awarded to a person outside the Fire Department, who has been involved in a lifesaving effort at an emergency scene before the arrival of the Fire department, or who has provided extraordinary assistance to Fire Department members in a lifesaving effort.

**Official Commendation:**

Official Commendations may be awarded by the Fire Chief, without review of the Awards Committee, for exceptional performance above and beyond the call of duty.

**Letter of Appreciation:**

Letters of Appreciation may be presented by any member of the Fire Department, after review by the Fire Chief, for above average performance.

## MIAMI BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS

### • PROMOTIONS:

#### **Fleet Supervisor**

Gilberto Santiago 2/01/03

#### **Firefighter II**

Gary Miano 6/30/03

Roberto Quintana 6/30/03

Paul Reuss 7/01/04

#### **Fire Lieutenant**

Tom Samperi 6/30/03

Ray Morris 6/30/03

Lee Amato 7/01/04

#### **Fire Captain**

John Howard 3/31/03

Keith Yuhr 7/01/04

#### **Fire Division Chief**

Chris Parrino 3/24/03

Sonia Machen 6/02/03

Jeff Duckworth 7/01/04

#### **Assistant Chief**

Ed Del Favero 3/24/03

### • RECOGNITION, COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION LETTER RECIPIENTS

#### **SWAT**

##### **Commendation**

Daniel Kokaram, FI

John Randolph, FII

Charles Albury, FII

Nelson Gonzalez, FII

Jeffery Boyer, FI

Gary MacIntosh, FI

Raul Sanchez, FI

Bradford White, FII

Tom Columbano, Capt.

Ed Ryan, Lieutenant

Roy Kelly, FI

Thomas Cross, FI

Ronald Basallo, FI

Brian Galletta, FI

David Yocum, FI

David DeGrange

Timothy Dougherty, FII

Adonis Garcia, FI

Jack Richardson, FII

Rolando Hernandez, FI

Robert Erbs, FI

Patrick Huddleston, FII

Michelle Viera, FI

George Ledon, FI

David Weston, FPA

Charles Phelps, FPA

#### **Fire Dept. Letter of**

##### **Commendation**

Tim Howarth, Lt. (2)

Christopher Kirk, FI

Isabel Ochoa, FI

Michael Lynch, FII

Joseph Dmytriw, FII

Douglas Thompson, FI

John Randolph, FII

Michael Davis, FII

#### **Fire Department**

##### **Letter of Appreciation**

Walter Carroll, FII

Robert Bedell, FI

Kenneth Cole, FI

Michael Timmony, Lt

Stuart Merker, FII

### • CITATION AND MEDAL AWARD WINNERS

#### ➤ **Ocean Rescue Division Awards**

Boardman of the Year – Cynthia Aguilar

Waterman of the Year – Mike Petker

#### ➤ **Fire Department Awards**

**Firefighter of the Year** – Tim Howarth

**Fire Inspector of the Year** – Isabel Ochoa

**Community Service Award** – Nelson Gonzalez

**Distinguished Service Award** – Chris Kirk, Elena Tellez

**Safety Award** – David Mogen

#### **Unit Citation Awards:**

**Norway Cruise Ship Fire:** Tim Howarth, Mike Timmony, Stuart Merker, Thomas Cross, Brian Galletta, Ronald Basallo, and David Yokum.

**Open Water Rescue:** Ed Ryan, Roy Kelly, Raul Sanchez, Bradford white, Joseph Dmytriw, John Randolph, Michael Lynch, and Douglas Thompson.

**Drowning Emergency:** Gary MacIntosh, Michael Davis and Jeffery Boyer.